

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE DISTRICT OF SOUTH CAROLINA
COLUMBIA DIVISION**

THE PRUDENTIAL INSURANCE
COMPANY OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

DANIELA H. LAWSON, individually and in
her capacity as natural guardian of K.D.L., a
minor, and K.L., a minor; K.D.L., a minor, and
K.L., a minor,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.: 3:19-cv-01882-JMC

CONSENT ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the court pursuant to a Joint Motion to Discharge Plaintiff (ECF No. 34) by Plaintiff The Prudential Insurance Company of America (“Prudential”) and Defendants Daniela H. Lawson (“Lawson”), K.D.L., and K.L., for entry of an Order (1) granting Prudential interpleader relief with regard to certain life insurance proceeds in the amount of \$400,000.00 plus applicable claim interest (“Death Benefit”) due as a consequence of the death of Phillip D. Lawson, a servicemember who was covered under a group life insurance policy bearing Group Policy No. G-32000 (the “Group Policy”) issued by Prudential through the Office of Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance to the Department of Veterans Affairs of the United States, pursuant to the Servicemembers’ Group Life Insurance statute, 38 U.S.C. § 1965; (2) discharging Prudential from any further liability with regard to the Death Benefit and Group Policy, and (3) dismissing Prudential from this action with prejudice, and the court having appointed a guardian *ad litem* for minor Defendants, K.D.L., and K.L., and Prudential having previously deposited the Death Benefit¹ into the court’s Registry.

¹ Prudential deposited \$403,081.49 (representing the death benefit of \$400,000 and interest in the amount of \$3,081.49) into the court’s Registry on June 17, 2020. (*See* ECF No. 33.)

Upon review, and for good cause shown, the court **GRANTS** the parties' Joint Motion to Discharge Plaintiff (ECF No. 34). **NOW THEREFORE, IT IS ORDERED** as follows:

1. Prudential shall be, and hereby is, discharged from any and all liability to Lawson, K.D.L., and K.L. relating to the Group Policy and/or the Death Benefit due thereunder, and Lawson, K.D.L., and K.L. are permanently enjoined from bringing any action or proceeding in any forum, or making any further actual or implied claims, demands and causes of action, asserted or unasserted, liquidated or unliquidated, or bringing any action or proceeding in any forum against Prudential, arising out of or in connection relating to the Group Policy and/or the Death Benefit.

2. All claims, rights, interests and actions that Lawson, K.D.L., and K.L. might otherwise have held against Prudential and its present and former parents, subsidiaries and affiliated corporations, predecessors, successors and assigns and their respective officers, directors, agents, employees, representatives, attorneys, fiduciaries and administrators, with respect to the Group Policy and/or the Death Benefit are hereby released.

3. All claims against Prudential are hereby dismissed with prejudice and Prudential is hereby dismissed with prejudice from this litigation.

4. This court retains jurisdiction over Lawson, K.D.L., and K.L. who are compelled to litigate, adjust and/or settle among each other their respective and lawful entitlement to the Death Benefit paid into the court's registry by Prudential, or upon their failure to do so, this court shall settle and adjust the claims and determine to whom the within total funds shall be paid.

IT IS SO ORDERED.



United States District Judge

June 24, 2020
Columbia, South Carolina

We hereby consent to the form and entry of the within Order:

s/ Nashiba Boyd

Regina H. Lewis, USDC ID No. 7553

rlewis@gaffneylewis.com

Nashiba Boyd, USDC ID No. 11408

nboyd@gaffneylewis.com

GAFFNEYLEWIS LLC

3700 Forest Dr., Suite 400

Columbia, SC 29204

(803) 790-8838

*Counsel for Plaintiff, The Prudential
Insurance Company of America*

s/ Adam T. Silvernail

Adam T. Silvernail, USDC ID No. 11024

adam@silvernaillawfirm.com

Law Office of Adam T. Silvernail, LLC

Post Office Box 7995

Columbia, SC 29202-7995

(803) 779-1770

*Counsel for Defendants, Daniela H. Lawson,
individually and in her capacity as natural
guardian of K.D.L., a minor, and K.L., a minor;
K.D.L., a minor, and K.L., a minor*

s/ Olivia Jones

Olivia Jones, USDC ID No. 10425

ojones@docila.org

South Carolina Legal Services

Post Office Box 1445

Columbia, SC 29201

(803) 402-3815

Guardian ad litem for minor defendants, K.D.L. and K.L.